

106 and the outlet portion 108 is of a length to extend to the waist level of a user.

Amendment to Claims:

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (canceled)
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16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (canceled)

Kindly add the following claims:

22. (new) Apparatus for separating debris from rock on a surface free of standing water comprising:

a power vacuum source;

an elongated tubular intake portion of a first diameter having an open entrance end and an opposite end wall;

an elongated tubular outlet portion of a second diameter smaller than said first diameter of said intake portion including an end portion extending centrally through said end wall

into fluid communication with the interior of said intake portion and an outlet end in communication with said vacuum source, said intake portion being of a length substantially greater than that of said outlet portion; and

means for grasping said apparatus in the hands of a user to facilitate advancement in a slightly raised position along said surface to permit the introduction of air, debris and rock into said intake portion whereupon any debris lighter than rock will be drawn upwardly through said outlet portion into said vacuum source and any rock lifted from the surface will return to the landscape surface.

23. (new) The apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said intake portion and said outlet portion in combination are of a length to extend substantially to the waist level of a user.

24. (new) The apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said grasping means includes at least one handle member.

25. (new) The apparatus according to claim 24 wherein a first handle member extends parallel to a longitudinal axis of said intake portion.

26. (new) The apparatus according to claim 25 wherein said a second handle member extends at an angle to said first handle member.

27. (new) The apparatus according to claim 26 wherein

said handle members are located on said intake and outlet portions.

28. (new) The apparatus according to claim 22 wherein a pressure state is created within said intake portion such that when the intake portion is lifted off of the surface, said rock in said intake portion returns to said surface.

29. (new) The apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said intake portion is at least twice as long as said outlet portion.

30. (new) The apparatus according to claim 22 wherein the outlet portion is disposed in a head assembly configured for attachment to the intake portion with the outlet portion in direct fluid communication with the inlet portion.

31. (new) Apparatus for separating debris from rock on a landscape surface in a dry environment comprising:

an elongated tubular intake portion having a first diameter throughout;

an elongated tubular outlet portion having a second diameter, said first diameter being almost twice as great as said second diameter;

said intake portion having an open entrance end and a means for deflecting rocks from entering said outlet portion, said outlet portion including an end portion extending centrally through said deflecting means into fluid communication with an interior of said intake portion;

a power vacuum source in communication with an outlet end of said outlet portion;

said intake portion and said outlet portion in combination being of a length to extend to the waist level of a user; and

means for grasping and maneuvering said intake portion and said outlet portion in the hands of a user to facilitate advancement and positioning of said apparatus on the landscape surface.

32. (new) The apparatus according to claim 31 wherein said outlet portion is substantially elbow shaped.

33. (new) The apparatus according to claim 31 wherein a diameter of said open entrance end is equivalent to a diameter of said opposite end wall.

34. (new) The apparatus according to claim 31 wherein said deflecting means includes an end wall opposite said open entrance end with a central opening, said end wall extending at substantially right angles to the direction of flow through said intake portion.

35. (new) A method of separating debris from landscape rock in a dry environment by providing an apparatus with a vacuum power source at one end of an outlet portion and an intake portion of a first diameter at an opposite end having an open entrance and an opposite end wall, said outlet portion of a smaller diameter

than said first diameter of said intake portion and of a length substantially smaller than that of said intake portion and handle members attached to said apparatus, the method comprising:

attaching said power vacuum source to said elongated tubular outlet portion of said apparatus;

grasping said outlet portion and said intake portion that is in fluid communication with said outlet portion, by said handle members;

positioning said apparatus on said landscape rock, said apparatus being of a length to extend substantially to the waist level of a user;

permitting the introduction of air, debris and rock into said intake portion;

deflecting said landscape rock from entering said outlet portion through contact with said end wall of said intake portion;

returning said rock to a landscape surface; and
removing debris through said outlet portion.

36. (new) The method according to claim 35 wherein said steps further include maintaining the intake portion in a downward orientation with said open entrance in contact with said landscape surface.

37. (new) The method according to claim 35 wherein the step of returning said rock to a landscape surface includes lifting said intake portion off said surface causing said rock to be returned to said surface.